

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13  
EB-08 USPS-01 /080 W  
-----111835Z 128364 /53

R 111747Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6437  
AMEMBASSY BERN  
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04455

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, UR, GW, GE, WB, SZ  
SUBJECT: SOVIET PROTEST ON BERLIN LISTING IN ICCO

REF: BONN 2228

SUMMARY: FRG IS INSTRUCTING ITS EMBASSY IN BERN TO  
APPROACH THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)  
CONCERNING WHAT THE FRG CONSIDERS TO BE INCORRECT  
ADVICE FROM THE UPU ON POSTAL ADDRESS LISTING FOR WEST  
BERLIN. THE FRG HAS ASKED FOR ALLIED SUPPORT IN BACKING  
UP ITS APPROACH. ACTION REQUEST: DEPARTMENT  
AUTHORIZE EMBASSY BERN TO RENDER SUCH SUPPORT. END  
SUMMARY.

1. IN MARCH 9 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG REP (VON ARNIM)  
REPORTED TO ALLIES THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS  
INSTRUCTING THE FRG EMBASSY IN BERN TO GO THROUGH WITH  
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THE DEMARCHE NOTED IN PARA 6 REFTEL. THE PURPOSE OF  
THE DEMARCHE WILL BE TO INFORM M. CHAUBERT OF THE UPU  
INTERNATIONAL BUREAU IN BERN THAT HIS CHARACTERIZATION  
OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FRG AND BERLIN TO THE  
INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION (ICCO) SECRETARIAT  
IN LONDON WAS BOTH INCORRECT AND MISLEADING AND TO  
REQUEST THAT NO SUCH INFORMATION BE GIVEN OUT IN THE

FUTURE.

2. VON ARNIM SAID THAT HE WAS REQUESTING THE ALLIES TO INFORM THEIR EMBASSIES IN BERN IN THE EVENT CHAUBERT SHOULD CONTACT THEM FOR AN OPINION. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE DRAFT LETTER TO THE FRG EMBASSY IN BERN THE FRG EMBASSY IS INSTRUCTED TO CONSULT WITH THE ALLIED EMBASSIES PRIOR TO THE DEMARCHE.

3. IN MAKING THE DEMARCHE TO CHAUBERT, THE FRG EMBASSY WILL BE MAKING THE FOLLOWING POINTS ORALLY:

BEGIN TEXT:

A. WE HAVE BECOME AWARE THAT THE UPU IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION (ICCO) IN LONDON CONCERNING THE CORRECT POSTAL LISTING OF A WEST BERLIN-LOCATED INSTITUTION HAS GIVEN THE FOLLOWING OPINION. THAT:

-- FROM THE POLITICAL STANDPOINT AND BY VIRTUE OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1971, WEST BERLIN CONSTITUTES A POLITICAL ENTITY INDEPENDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

-- IT IS, THEREFORE, NOT CORRECT TO PUT FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AT THE FOOT OF ADDRESSES CONCERNING WEST BERLIN.

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B. BOTH OF THESE OPINIONS AND THEIR ASSERTIONS HAVE ASTONISHED US:

-- THE INFORMATION THAT WEST BERLIN CONSTITUTES A POLITICAL ENTITY INDEPENDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IS NOT IN ACCORD WITH THE LEGAL POSITION OF THE THREE POWERS WHO AS IS WELL KNOWN HOLD THE SUPREME AUTHORITY IN WEST BERLIN AND WHO ARE SOLELY ABLE TO INTERPRET SUCH THINGS IN A BINDING MANNER. WEST BERLIN HAS THEREFORE -- LIKE EAST BERLIN -- A SPECIAL STATUS BUT IS NOT A POLITICAL ENTITY INDEPENDENT FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, BUT RATHER CONNECTED TO IT THROUGH MANY SPECIFIC AND CLOSE TIES. THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1971, ESPECIALLY CONFIRMED, "THAT THE TIES BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WILL

BE MAINTAINED AND DEVELOPED."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04455

WE CANNOT AGREE WITH THE FINAL PART OF THE  
POSITION OF UPU THAT AN ADDRESS IN WEST BERLIN  
MAY NOT BE CONCLUDED WITH THE COUNTRY  
DESCRIPTION, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE  
POSTAL ADDRESS "1 BERLIN 33, FEDERAL REPUBLIC  
OF GERMANY" OR "D 1, BERLIN 33" IS CORRECT AND  
BRINGS TO THE ATTENTION OF POSTAL AUTHORITIES  
THAT THE WAY FOR TRANSMISSION AND DELIVERY OF  
POSTAL MATERIAL TO WEST BERLIN IS BY WAY OF  
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

C. THE AFOREMENTIONED ASSERTIONS OF THE UPU CONCERNING  
THE LEGAL POSITION OF BERLIN COULD IN INTERNATIONAL  
FORA, IF THEY WERE TO BECOME KNOWN, LEAD TO MISUNDER-  
STANDINGS. WE WOULD THEREFORE BE GRATEFUL IF THE UPU  
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IN THE FUTURE WOULD NOT GIVE SUCH OPINIONS WHICH DO NOT FALL UNDER ITS DIRECT COMPETENCE.

END TEXT.

4. VON ARNIM CONCLUDED THAT THE FRG POSITION WAS DEFENSIBLE AS IN PRACTICE THE GDR ACCEPTS THE "D" POSTAL CODE FOR WEST BERLIN AND EVEN ACCEPTS AND TRANSMITS MAIL ADDRESSED TO "1 BERLIN 33, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY."

5. WE EXPECT THAT THE FRG EMBASSY IN BERN WILL BE CONTACTING ALLIED EMBASSIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO REQUEST EITHER THAT THEY MAKE A SUPPORTIVE FOLLOW-UP APPROACH TO CHAUBERT OR THAT THEY BE PREPARED TO CONFIRM THE INFORMATION IN PARA 3 IF CHAUBERT SHOULD CONTACT THEM.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE EMBASSY BERN TO COORDINATE WITH UK, FRENCH, AND FRG EMBASSIES TO TAKE SUPPORTIVE ACTION.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, UR, GE, GC, WB, SZ, INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION, ICCO  
**To:** STATE BERN  
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